

Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 IOE-00 SSO-00 NEA-07 AF-04 EUR-08 ARA-06

EA-06 SP-02 INR-05 INRE-00 PRS-01 OIC-01 CU-02 ISO-00

/060 W

----- 007802

O R 211622Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1165

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 15060

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

LIMDIS

NESCO

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, XF, IS

SUBJECT: UNESCO 99TH EXBD: AGENDA ITEM 9.2: OUTLOOK

FOR VOTING ON ARAB DR RE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

REF: (A) PARIS 14388, (B) PARIS 14798

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1. AS OF EARLY MORNING MAY 21, TEXT OF ARAB DRAFT

RESOLUTION ON SUBJECT ISSUE, WHICH WILL BE VOTED UPON MAY 24, REPORTEDLY REMAINED UNCHANGED (REFTEL A) ALTHOUGH DR HAS NOT AS YET BEEN PRINTED AND ISSUED BY SECRETARIAT AS ARABS CONTINUE TO SEEK CO-SPONSORS. THE DR IS LIKELY TO HAVE 15 - 20 CO-SPONSORS: 5 ARAB BOARD MEMBERS, 7 AFRICANS (KENYA REFUSED TO CO-SPONSOR THE RESOLUTION THAT THIS INAPPROPRIATE FOR HOSTS TO NEXT GENERAL CONFERENCE:, AND POSSIBLY PHILIPPINES, INDIA, AS WELL AS SOME OR ALL OF THE FOUR SOVIET EE BOARD MEMBERS AND YUGOSLAVIA.

2. AS ANTICIPATED IN PERMDEL PREVIOUS REPORTS, MAY 21 EARLY MORNING SESSION OF UNESCO "INFORMATION GROUP" CONFIRMED THAT OF THE FIVE BOARD MEMBERS OF THE EEC "NINE", FOUR (BELGIUM, FRANCE, FRG AND ITALY) HAVE INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF DR AND UK, WHICH STILL AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS, IS LIKELY TO FOLLOW. OF THE OTHER FRIENDLIES ON BOARD, JAPAN AWAITING INSTRUCTIONS ON WHETHER TO VOTE "YES" OR ABSTAIN, AS ARE AUSTRALIA AND AUSTRIA, ALTHOUGH LATTER TWO PROBABLY WILL SUPPORT. NORWAY HAS INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTE IN FAVOR DUE TO MAJORITY POSITION OF "NINE", BUT CAN ABSTAIN IF CIRCUMSTANCES CHANGE. VOTE LIKELY TO APPROACH 35 IN FAVOR TO ONE AGAINST (US) TO ONE OR THREE ABSTENTIONS.

3. IT NOTEWORTHY THAT BELGIANS INTEND TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF REMOVING REFERENCES IN DR'S OPERATIVE PARAS TO 18 GC, RES. 13.1, AS THEY UNDERSTAND GOI FEELS THESE CONSTITUTE DR'S PRINCIPAL OBJECTION FROM ISRAELI VIEWPOINT. HOWEVER, OUR SOUNDINGS AMONG AFRICANS AND ARABS SUGGEST THAT ARABS WILL NOT AGREE TO FURTHER SOFTENING OF TEXT.

4. WITH PASSAGE OF ARAB DR NOW A CERTAINTY, THE ONLY UNPREDICTABLE FACTOR IS WHETHER THE DEBATE WILL BE SO SHARP AS TO PROMPT ARABS TO MAKE LAST MINUTE AMENDMENTS TO TOUGHEN DR TEXT. ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS UNKNOWN ELEMENT OF THE TONE OF PRESS TREATMENT--PERMDEL WOULD NOTE THAT NEW YORK TIMES, AP AND UPI ALL LIKELY TO BE PRESENT--BUT MEDIA REPORTAGE MAY WELL BE DETERMINED BY CONFIDENTIAL

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LIKELY RHETORICAL EXCESSES THAT ARABS MAY COMMIT. ISRAELIS' STANCE WILL, OF COURSE, HAVE IMPACT ON ARABS.

5. ISRAELIS HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY LOBBYING AMONG THE "NINE" AND HAVE BASED THEIR MAIN OBJECTION ON ARAB DR REFERENCES TO 18 GC RESOLUTION 13.1. HOWEVER, WHILE ISRAELIS TOLD US AT MAY 19 WORKING LUNCH (REFTEL B) THEY WERE LOBBYING FOR WE "NO" VOTES,

AUSTRALIANS, BELGIANS AND BRITISH HAVE COMMONLY TOLD
US THAT ISRAELIS MADE NEITHER REFERENCE TO NOR APPEALED
FOR A "NO" VOTE BUT, INSTEAD, URGED THESE COUNTRIES
ONLY TO ABSTAIN.

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 IOE-00 SSO-00 AF-04 EUR-08 ARA-06 EA-06

NEA-07 INR-05 SP-02 INRE-00 PRS-01 OIC-01 CU-02 ISO-00

/060 W

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O R 211622Z MAY 76
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1166
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 15060

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LIMDIS

NESCO

6. INDEED, ISRAELIS (BAR YAACOV) TOOK LINE WITH BELGIAN

AMBASSADOR TO UNESCO WHO ALSO BOARD MEMBER, THAT GOI
NOW WISHED TO TAKE A "CONSTRUCTIVE" APPROACH TOWARDS
UNESCO, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO CORRECTING THEIR
IMAGE OF "RIGIDITY" AMONG BLACK AFRICANS IN ORDER TO
IMPROVE THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE 19TH GENERAL CONFERENCE.
BY CONTRAST, ISRAELIS TOLD US AT MAY 19 LUNCH THAT THEIR
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POLICY TOWARDS UNESCO REMAINS UNCHANGED.

7. COMMENT: DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LINE TAKEN BY ISRAELIS
WITH US AND WITH WEO'S MIGHT WELL BE ATTRIBUTABLE TO GOI
REASONING THAT WEO'S WOULD NOT EVEN CONSIDER OPPOSING
THIS RESOLUTION. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE UNABLE TO
EXPLAIN WHY ISRAELIS WOULD TELL US THERE IS NO CHANGE IN
THEIR POLICY TOWARDS UNESCO BUT WOULD TELL WEO'S
THEY ARE ADOPTING A NEW AND MORE FLEXIBLE POLICY
TOWARDS UNESCO.

8. BLACK AFRICANS AND ARABS HAVE INDICATED THAT
TRADE-OFF FOR ARAB MODERATION IN TEXT OF DR ITSELF WAS
ARAB IHSISTANCE THAT THEY BE FREE TO TAKE HARDLINE
RHETORICAL STANCE IN THE DEBATE PRECEDING THE RESOLUTION.
UHDULY HARSH ARAB STATEMENTS--UNLESS RPT UNLESS
PROVOKED BY ISRAELIS--COULD CONCEIVABLY ADD A FEW
ABSTENTIONS IN VOTING ON DR. AS MATTERS STAND NOW,
HOWEVER, WEO'S CONSIDER TEXT EXCEPTIONALLY MODERATE AND
THEREBY MERITING FAVORABLE VOTES TO FOSTER MODERATION
IN THE FUTURE AS WELL AS TO MAKE APPROPRIATE RECOGNITION
OF AFRICAN EFFORTS TO KEEP DR TEXT AS MILD AS POSSIBLE.
THESE FACTORS OUTWEIGHTED, IN WEO'S JUDGMENT, THE CON-
SIDERATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THEIR ABSTENTIONS DURING
THE 18TH GENERAL CONFERENCE VOTING ON RESOLUTION 13.1 TO
WHICH CURRENT DR REFERS. INDEED, WEO'S ARE GENERALLY
DISAPPOINTED THAT US UNABLE TO MAKE SIMILAR GESTURE OF
RECOGNITION BY ABSTAINING.
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